



CALIFORNIA CHILD WELFARE COUNCIL



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Chief Justice of California and
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VANCE RAYE
Administrative Presiding Justice
Cochair, California Child Welfare Council

September 29, 2014

To All Californians:

We are pleased to submit the 2013-14 Annual Report of the California Child Welfare Council pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code section 16540. The Council is an advisory body that is responsible for improving the collaboration and processes of multiple agencies and courts that serve children and youth in the child welfare system. The Council is required to monitor and report to the Governor, Legislature, Judicial Council and the public the extent to which child welfare programs and the courts are responsive to the needs of children in their joint care.

During this past Fiscal Year, the Council built on work begun in prior years to further develop multi-system collaboration and effective partnerships necessary for continued improvement within the child welfare system. The Committees and Task Forces of the Council addressed numerous issues including education of foster children, ending commercial sexual exploitation of children, ensuring that parents of children in foster care can have access to services needed to reunify the family, and child abuse prevention strategies. The reports and recommendations related to these topic areas may be found on the Council's website at <http://www.chhs.ca.gov/initiatives/CACChildWelfareCouncil/Pages/default.aspx>.

We welcome feedback from the public at any time. Please direct your comments and questions to CWCouncil@chhs.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DIANA S. DOOLEY, Co-Chair
Secretary
California Health and Human
Services Agency

VANCE RAYE, Co-Chair
Administrative Presiding Justice
Third District Court of Appeals
Sacramento, California